Montana Newsletter

Montana State Library

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MONTANA STATE LIBRARY

News UPDATE

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February, 1989 Update No. 7

The Montana State Library Commission meeting set for Tuesday, February 28 has been changed to Wednesday, March 1. The meeting will be in Helena at the Montana State Library and it is open to all interested persons.

The January Newsletter featured an article on the Public Television series, Reading Rainbow and on public libraries' free use right to tape the programs off the air and circulate them to patrons. The shows will be aired each weekday, beginning March 27 on KUSM (Bozeman) at 3 & at 5 PM and on KUED (Salt Lake) at 5 PM. Libraries interested in taping the series who have not received the fact sheet with a list of conditions for taping and a list of the books that will be featured on each of ten new programs, should write to GPN, Box 80669, Lincoln, Nebraska, 68501, or call toll-free, 800-228-4630.

House Bill 193, Information Access, the legislation which would provide state aid for libraries in Montana was introduced by Representative Bob Thoft (R-Stevensville) on January 16. The bill was sent to the Appropriations Committee and it is awaiting a committee hearing, which has not yet been scheduled. If the bill is passed by the committee, it will be sent to the House of Representatives for a vote. If passed in the House, it will be sent to the Senate and, if passed in the Senate, it will be sent to Governor Stephens for his signature. If signed by the Governor, Information Access will become law.

This year's joint Montana Library Association (MLA) / Mountain Plains Library Association (MPLA) conference will offer workshops in a variety of areas relevant to many different interests in libraries and library services. There will be day-long workshops in communications, fundraising and in working with boards. Topics covered in shorter workshops during the April 26 - 29 conference will include automation, grant writing, literacy programs, how to manage meetings, an architectural and legal perspective on library construction, and many more timely subjects. Registration for the Billings conference is open to members and non-members of MLA. The conference will be an opportunity for those new to Montana libraries to meet members of the Montana library community. More information about the conference is available from Peggy Smith, Registration, Skyview High School, 1775 High Sierra Blvd., Billings, MT 59105.

The United States Institute of Peace has initiated a library program named for Montanan Jeannette Rankin, the first woman to serve in the United States Congress. The Institute of Peace is an independent nonpartisan federal government institution created by Congress to promote peace in the world. The Jeannette Rankin Library Program, in operation since November, comprises a research library that will serve as a source for materials on international peace, as an oral history

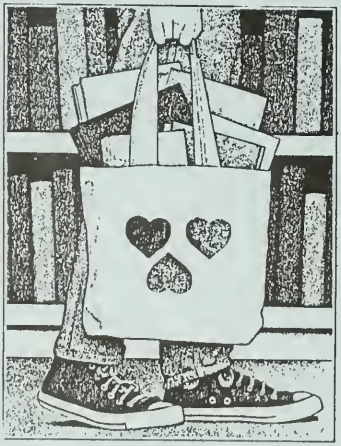
resource and as a centralized bibliographic database. Persons interested in more information should contact Director Geraldine Jones, U.S. Institute of Peace, 1500 M. St. NW, Suite 700, Washington, D.C. 20005.

The Carroll College Library was damaged by the February 2 rail car collision and explosion in Helena. The library staff is picking up the pieces and making good progress toward reopening. The library will probably be open by the time this Update is being read. Director Lois Fitzpatrick does not anticipate interlibrary loan problems related to the damage. She requests patience, though, as it may be difficult for staff to access some stacks while repairs are being made.

"The School Library Media Specialist ... Your Source for Information Power," will be the theme for School Library Media Month in April. The American Library Association Committee promoting the event is working on a new publication that will provide ideas for celebrating the special week. School Librarians and Media Specialists are encouraged to submit ideas for the publication to Ann Ostenso, Monte Vista School, Box 1031, Monterey, CA 93940. Ideas should be submitted on one page and should identify target audience, type of event, objective, brief description of how it worked, case history and the school location and name of the media specialist responsible for the project.

Ten Montana libraries, public and/or tribal community college, will have an opportunity to participate in a humanities program aimed at older adults and focused on railroads and their impact on American history. The program, sponsored by the National Council on the Aging, involves each library hosting eight to ten weekly discussions led by humanities scholars, based on an anthology titled, We Got There on the Train: Railroads in the Lives of American People. The weekly discussions will begin after May 1, 1989. Public and tribal community college libraries interested in participating should write a letter expressing interest to Richard Miller, State Librarian, Montana State Library, 1515 E. 6th, Helena, MT 59620 by March 3, 1989. There will be no charge to the participating libraries.

Thank You to all Montana Public Librarians who took the time to complete the 1987 Statistical Reports. The statistics are now being compiled in book form and will be distributed to public libraries in March.



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